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TODAY'S WEATHER—Light rain; southerly winds.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 42; minimum temperature, 38; precipitation, 0.91 inch.

PORTLAND, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

EUROPE AND THE SPANISH WAR.

It is admitted now in all European circles that Austria attempted to sound the principal nations of Europe as to their disposition toward the United States at the outbreak of the Spanish War. How far each or any of them might have been willing to press a concert of intervention on behalf of Spain is just now a subject of lively dispute among them. It has always been believed that refusal of Great Britain to participate stopped further proceedings; and such evidence as there is all points that way. Russia, indeed, was probably unwilling; but such an affair could have proceeded without her, if Great Britain could have been induced to join.

It was natural that the nations of the Continent of Europe should sympathize with Spain. War between Spain and the United States would inevitably strengthen the power of the United States and give new force and larger scope to the Monroe Doctrine. It was a consequence particularly distasteful to Continental Europe. Germany, now the leading power of the Continent, is jealous of the extension of the influence of the United States over South America. Violent protests against it have been coming from the German press during many years. The attitude of the German Admiral at Manila towards Admiral Dewey was for months one of insolence and menace; as if he were in daily expectation of notice from his government that war was to be made on the United States. France, though our ally in the Revolution, never has been our friend. She joined us in the Revolution through no regard for us, but solely for the reason that she saw an opportunity of dealing England, her ancient enemy, a retaliatory blow. Within a few years after the termination of this alliance there was war between France and the United States; and when our war of secession came on France seized the opportunity of getting into Mexico, menacing us with establishment of an empire in alliance with the Confederate States. France did her best at this time to draw England into open support of our revolted states, but England refused; and the French were sent skipping out of Mexico, just as the Confederacy collapsed. History proves that France never has been a friend of the United States. Nor are Austria and Italy more friendly to the growth of the influence of the United States than are Germany and France—though they would have little power of putting pressure upon us.

In the Venezuelan affair we snubbed England severely; and our people on reflection deem it a wide question whether we did not go too far. Certain it is that the business might have been handled more smoothly, with a result equally desirable to ourselves. But there is a bond of peace between the United States and Great Britain which it is exceedingly difficult to break—perhaps never can be broken again. This is the bond of commercial interest, on either side equally strong. Between ourselves and the English there is not much sentimental nonsense; we do not fall into each other's arms, as France has the habit of doing with every ally she can find, but we can't afford to fight each other, and neither of us wants to see the other seriously worsted. War between these two nations is therefore an impossibility; and if it could occur it would be a calamity to civilization.

Great Britain therefore would neither take part against us in the Spanish War, nor was she willing to see us forced to fight a European coalition. Let it be granted that this attitude proceeded from self-interest. It remains to be said that when self-interest is based on a large and enlightened view of things, in accord with humanity and the general interests of mankind, it is a motive that may well enter into the guidance of states.

BOGUS BUTTER AND ITS FRIENDS.

The theory upon which the Woolgrowers' Convention at Helena has declared itself in opposition to the McCleary oleomargarine bill, now before Congress, is on its face a cheap pretense. It is ridiculous to pretend that sympathy with the poor ranchman "on the plains and in the mountains," who must have oleomargarine or go butterless to bed, is the basis of this fight against the bogus butter fraud. The Woolgrowers' Convention opposes the McCleary bill in pursuance of a bargain to "stand in" with the National Livestock Association in its fight; and the opposition of the latter is based upon the fact that beef tallow is largely used in the bogus butter manufacture. Having beef stock to sell, the cattlemen are in arms against a proposition to limit their market. That's the whole story.

The reasonable objection to the manufacture of oleomargarine is that it is a fraudulent thing. In spite of all the laws which have been enacted with respect to it, it is still sold as butter and is largely consumed by persons who presume themselves to be using butter. It is because they wish to deceive the consumer that the oleomargarine men always make their product to imitate butter in every possible detail. In color, in taste, in smell, in the form of each "roll" or "pat," in the package in which it finds its way to market—in all of these points oleomargarine masquerades as butter. No wonder there is angry protest from the dairymen, who find the markets filled with a fraudulent and imitated product, manufactured on a cheap basis and urged in competition with their own genuine product.

The McCleary bill does not seek to prevent the manufacture of oleomargarine, but it does seek by a heavy tax to prevent it from masquerading as butter. Its purpose is to make it take its own natural color and form; and we do not see how any reasonable man or association not directly interested in the promotion of a fraud can object to it.

OUTWORN IN OREGON.

Representative Tongue's views on the Hill silver coinage bill, printed in yesterday's paper, include some remarkable expressions to come from a Republican in a gold-standard state six years after the campaign of 1896, with its educational work and illuminative discussion. For example:

> There may be a few people in the United States who have more money than they need. These are few indeed. They are not in great need of legislative aid. . . . Money may be too abundant for the few. But not to that large class of active, energetic, industrious people who are willing to do business, but are compelled to borrow the capital necessary for that end. These people should not be lightly sacrificed. They are entitled to careful consideration, the protection and encouragement of the laws.

Here is misconception truly Bryanic. Its basis is in confusion of money with substitutes for money, and in failure to comprehend the monetary standard. Silver and silver certificates are not money. They are credit currency. They are substitutes for money. They are maintained at gold values by the Treasury, and they rest upon gold just as other credit currency rests upon gold. Coining money or printing notes will not put money or credit currency into the hands of those who have no money, nothing to exchange for money, and no adequate credit upon which to borrow. Dearth of credit is not to be met by inflation of the currency. Adequate credit is not to be impaired by substituting one form of credit currency (bank notes or bank credit) for another form of credit currency (silver and silver certificates).

Mr. Tongue echoes the cry of the silver minority that to make the silver currency exchangeable with gold will add to the burden resting upon gold. Here is the old Bryanic persistence in refusal to see that our silver coin and paper are not money in themselves, but rely upon our gold for their value. They are a burden upon our gold, as it is. The Hill proposal is to make them in law as in fact exchangeable, to substitute truth for fiction and honesty for indirection. Mr. Gage's remark on this head is suggestive. If the Government discriminates against silver credit currency, how can we blame business for following its example?

Again, Mr. Tongue harks back to the old Populist slogan about the dollar. The Hill proposal is to hurry the silver dollars into halves and quarters as fast as business will absorb them. This does not please our Oregon Representative. "It is difficult," he protests, "to comprehend the hostility to the dollar. It is difficult to see why there should be more desire for two half dollars, non-legal tender, than a silver dollar that is legal tender." This objection is remarkable, in view of the fact that the majority of the coinage committee has amply set out the reasons for what he calls "hostility," but is in reality a business consideration. Take the $92,000,000 of halves and smaller denominations we have now and add to it the $66,000,000 proposed to be coined out of Sherman silver on hand, and we have $153,000,000. By the time it is all coined, 1907, we should have only $1 80 per capita of small silver. We can absorb a great deal more. Germany uses $3 50, Great Britain $2 82, Denmark $2 46. The past year Germany has changed $42,000,000 and Austria $50,000,000 of silver into subsidiary coin. Our subsidiary silver gets out into the circulation as fast as we coin it. Business absorbs it. Only one silver dollar in seven gets into the circulation. Half dollars are becoming more popular and silver dollars less popular.

The whole difficulty is the determination of our "bimetalists" to treat our silver dollars as a sacred form of money, which they are not, and to refuse to recognize in them a burden, which they are.

The Oregonian thinks Mr. Tongue misjudges the views of his district upon the silver question.

STRABISMUS OR ASTIGMATISM?

The esteemed Post-Intelligencer, of Seattle, insists that the mouth of the Columbia River is in no better condition for ships than it was before any jetty work was done there. It even intimates that the condition is worse. Moreover, that it is not nor ever will be an ocean port; that efforts to improve it may as well be abandoned, and that the work of improvement by the United States should now and henceforth be directed to removal of obstacles in the upper river.

But just what is the good of making the upper river navigable, if the outlet from it to the sea is in such condition as the esteemed newspaper at Seattle alleges, is by no means apparent.

The simple truth, of course, is that the Columbia Bar is in better condition than before the jetty was begun, but is not yet in good enough condition. It needs more depth, to accommodate the larger ships necessary for modern commerce. The committee on rivers and harbors, after personal examination of the river last June and July, from the mouth far into the interior, gave opinion that extension of the jetty at the mouth was the first need. And yet The Oregonian, and Portland, would rejoice to see the work on the upper river pushed also.

But our kind friend at Seattle urges a little matter of $6,000,000 to $10,000,000 on the Government, for the benefit of its own town. It appears that an inland sea that furnishes 1500 miles of shore line, everywhere a deep harbor, and direct connection with the ocean, yet hasn't harbor room enough; so the Government is called on to connect this greatest harbor system of the world with Lake Washington—a lake that lies just over the hill back of Seattle, so that ships may sail in there and lie proudly at their docks in the pond, at Seattle's back door. But that it would be of any use to commerce there is no pretense. That would be too absurd. So no such pretense is made. We are told, however, that Seattle wants it, and the newspaper of that town which holds that money expended at the mouth of the Columbia would be wasted, clamors for it.

Is it strabismus, merely, or moral astigmatism?

OUR DELIBERATIVE BODY.

The complaint is that the House has ceased to be a deliberative body. It transacts business with most pernicious promptness and unrighteous irreverence of delay. The Senate is now the only place where public measures are assured of adequate and pertinent discussion.

Mr. Carmack arose to address the Senate upon the Philippine tariff bill. He occupied much time in showing that independence was promised to the Philippines and that Dewey is a liar. Speaking on the same topic, Mr. Tillman expatiated upon burnings in the Philippines, upon lynchings in the South, upon Daniels of Arizona, upon South Carolina's part in the War of the Revolution. No changes in the Payne schedules were made or suggested as the result of the several days' speeches.

Upon the urgent deficiency bill, Mr. Hansbrough arose to address the Senate. The section under consideration was an appropriation for a land office at Sitka. He took the day to show that Noyes is a good man. Hale protested that the scandal had no relevancy, but Hansbrough went on. Others addressed the Senate on the same topic, some excoriating, others exculpating, Noyes. The appropriation for Sitka meanwhile remains in statu quo.

The Philippine tariff bill being before the Senate, Mr. Cullom spoke for half a day. He argued that the aspiration of the House to participate in reciprocity legislation should be rebuked. Mr. Money spoke. He addressed himself, anent the Payne schedules, to the number of troops contributed to our Revolutionary forces by the present State of Massachusetts. Mr. Lodge spoke. He protested against such irrelevancy. Turning more directly to the tariff schedules of the Philippines, he resented the imputation that a press censorship exists at Manila. Mr. Tillman further elucidated the tariff problem by assuring Mr. Lodge that "you can't gag us," and Mr. Bacon illuminated it by criticising Mr. Lodge for having shut him (Bacon) off a little while before. The Payne schedules, meanwhile, are comparatively in the same state of transparent opaqueness in which they emerged from committee.

The Senate recognizes in itself the only body where proposed legislation receives adequate and pertinent discussion. When, therefore, at the expiration of a more than usually pertinent and adequate day, Mr. Hoar suggested that a discussion of the life and character of Mary Queen of Scots would be in order and the Senators laughed, it is difficult to see why they laughed.

There is no excuse for shallow thinkers who see the Senate darkening counsel by words without knowledge and imagine they see it illuminating public affairs with eloquence and acumen. We all know what sort of timber the Senate is composed of. Why, then, do we pretend to gather grapes from thorns and figs from thistles?

MORAL SUASION AND THE DRINK HABIT.

The great English historian, John Richard Green, in his "Oxford, Old and New," just published, has a very interesting chapter concerning the hard drinking that prevailed at Oxford University in the eighteenth century. The clerical faculty drank as hard and were carried to bed as often as the poorest student. Dr. Grabe, the great theologian's "way of writing was to have a bottle of ale, brandy or wine stand by him, and every three or four lines of his writing he would drink thereof." Lord Eldon records how he saw a doctor of divinity so drunk that he could not support himself except by keeping one hand on the library building. At the beginning of the nineteenth century Andrew Crosse writes that he often saw his tutor carried off perfectly intoxicated, and Byron records the gross intemperance of a famous professor of Greek in his day at Cambridge. Lord Lovelace, at Oxford, drank a quart of brandy every morning, or its equivalent. Deaths of students from hard drinking were not uncommon. The Savilian professor of astronomy at Oxford died after drinking late on Saturday night at his own house, where he entertained with wine and punch the vice-chancellor of the college, Sir Thomas Gifford, and some others.

This kind of debauchery prevailed at the greatest university in England a century ago, not only among the students, but among the great clerical scholars who formed the official government and corps of instruction at Oxford, and yet when the historian became a student of Oxford some sixty years later, all this hard drinking had disappeared. No member of the government of Oxford or its corps of instructors led other than a life of blameless morality and abstemiousness. To what was this great change in social morality and good manners due? It was not due to law, for Great Britain has never known the enactment of prohibitory liquor laws. It was due to an immense increase in public refinement of manners and sentiment regarding the drinking habit, due largely to increased opposition of the medical profession to the convivial use of alcohol and to the sentiment and personal example of the clergy of all denominations. It became "bad form" among well-bred, intelligent people to use alcohol other than abstemiously; it was deemed a sign of vulgarity in fashionable society, and so hard drinking, save among old army and navy veterans, who had fought in youth under Wellington and Nelson, ceased to have much support.

These interesting facts are worth reciting because they illustrate that in both England and America the decrease in the vice of intemperance has been due entirely to moral suasion. Society has been slowly but surely educated to practice temperance. All the educating forces of modern life have been arrayed against the drink habit. Science condemns it; industrial life has no toleration for it; religion denounces it, personal interest and public policy are both hostile to it. It is a noteworthy fact that the beginning of this moral opposition to the drink habit was not visible in Great Britain before the accession of Queen Victoria, whose immediate predecessor, William IV, was a hard-drinking naval officer before he became a King. With the accession of Queen Victoria the influence of the court was promptly thrown against both hard drinking and gambling. The rise in English public opinion was contemporaneous with the first appreciable movement for temperance reform in the United States in 1840. From that day to this the education to temperance through the various forces of moral suasion has become every year more potential in America, unless it be the years of our Civil War and the five years following it.

Not only is it true that the decline of the drink habit, North and South, is not due to the enactment of prohibition, which prevails in very few states, but it is true that the clergy, who once advocated it, are coming to distrust it and to openly denounce it. Bishop Potter, of the Episcopal Church, recently denounced the prohibitory law as false and vicious, saying that it recognized drunkenness as a mitigation of crime. He denounced as false sentiment the picture of the drunkard as a victim who was not criminal in getting drunk because he was practically a martyr. Bishop Hall, of the Episcopal Church of Vermont, supports the views of Bishop Potter from personal observation, and so does Bishop Michaud, of the Catholic Church. The Rev. S. B. Dexter, who was secretary of the Inter-Denominational Ministerial Commission, of Chicago, which in the Summer of 1901 made an exhaustive investigation of the canteen question, himself an abstainer, an uncompromising enemy of the liquor traffic, gives his deliberate judgment, based on personal inquiry and investigation, that the change in the canteen law "has added strength to the saloon at the entrance to military posts, has reduced discipline and has encouraged crime." It is inevitable that if prohibition is vicious in its effects without the Army, it would be vicious within the Army. And the most recent testimony to the viciousness of prohibition comes from the ranks of the clergy, who once were its strongest advocates.

The latest official estimate shows that, exclusive of Denmark, the sugar-growing countries of Europe will produce this year 5,928,150 tons of raw sugar, an increase of 262,850 tons over the enormous product of last year. Of this vast output, Germany's portion is estimated at 2,073,100 tons, against 1,974,800 tons last year. In view of this enormous increase, and of the growing production of sugar in the United States, Cuba, Porto Rico and Hawaii, as stated by Consul-General Mason, of Berlin, prices of raw sugar in the German market have sunk until the condition of the whole sugar industry would have been desperate but for the "cartel," or secret working combination between raw sugar factories and refineries, by which high prices are maintained for all sugar consumed in Germany, the profits from which, added to the Government bounty paid on exports, enable the factories to pay a proportionately high rate for beets and at the same time sell their exported product in foreign markets at prices with which other nations find it difficult to compete, and which give the German producer a commanding position in the world's sugar market. These expedients and this combination show the desperate straits to which German sugar manufacturers and refiners are reduced in order to retain supremacy in this special commercial field. Whether this supremacy can be maintained against the steady growth of sugar production in the Western world is regarded as at least doubtful.

Montana expects a large accession to its population this season, through the liberal immigration rates given by the Northern Pacific to homeseekers in the West. The great state has room for many thousand industrious ranchmen, and a welcome for all. The rigors of its climate, however, offer little advantage to the people of the farther East, who, in changing location, seek to improve their condition in this respect. Hence many, well informed upon the climatic conditions of the farther Pacific Coast region, will pass through Montana, enjoying its wide expanse and beautiful scenery from the car windows, but seeking homes farther on. Oregon will naturally absorb much of this westward volume of homeseekers, and will give them cordial welcome and promise of prosperity contingent upon moderate investment and intelligently directed industry.

A Vancouver special to the New York Commercial says that the Dominion Fisheries Inquiry Commission, which will shortly sit at Vancouver, is intended really to enable a recommendation of the adoption in British Columbia of the salmon trap system, which already prevails in Washington and Oregon. The dispatch adds that the Canadian Government thus hopes to cover its intended action in the matter, as only by this, so the Fraser River canners aver, can they hope to compete with their American rivals. This is an aspect of the salmon problem that has probably never presented itself to our Oregon and Washington publicists. Is it possible in fishing as well as in other things that inventive skill puts hand labor at a disadvantage?

Observe that Sulzer's currency reform bill is pronounced too radical by Secretary Shaw. It commands the Treasury to deposit its funds in the unholy National banks, instead of locking them up in Government vaults. Mr. Shaw thinks it would be enough to authorize this procedure without making it mandatory. It is enjoyable even if somewhat disconcerting to find an active aspirant for second place with Bryan at Kansas City in 1900 now urging banking reform too advanced for reformers. Nothing could be more disrespectful to the late lamented Perpetual Candidate.

Pomeroy seems to be laboring under the hallucination that all work on the Columbia Bar is for the sole benefit of Portland. It is an utterly inexplicable misapprehension. The condition of the bar affects every producer and every consumer in the Columbia Basin.

Representative Moody does not seem to corroborate the assertions of his opponents that he is favorable to the cattlemen's scheme of lease law. His work on behalf of the settlers, at Wednesday's session of the public lands committee, was very effective.

It is not likely to be questioned longer that there is rottenness in the county and city business. When a public official, charged with the financial affairs of the county, will do what Commissioner Mack has done, what else may not be expected?

County Commissioner Mack says it is "none of The Oregonian's business." Only incidentally. But The Oregonian will try to show that it is some of the public's business.

A MOST UNJUST POLICY.

New York Times.

The ways and means committee have just determined to repeal internal revenue taxes to the amount of $88,000,000, and the tax on tea, some $9,000,000 more, while refusing the slightest reduction of the purely protective and discriminating tax on sugar and on tobacco for the products of Cuba. It is a very old trick. It was invented at the close of the civil war, when it gave birth to all our tariff abominations of the worst sort. During the war import taxes had very properly been put on goods coming into competition with native goods that had been heavily taxed for internal revenue. It would have been grossly unfair to load our manufacturers with taxes and leave their competitors free of taxation. The import duties were intended to be, and, in the main, they were, merely an offset to the internal taxes. Then the internal taxes were taken off and the heavy burden of the import taxes was left untouched. The resources of the Treasury were substantially exhausted, and any reform of the import duties became exceedingly difficult.

The plan today is strikingly similar. The estimated surplus for the year is in round numbers $100,000,000. More than three-quarters of it is wiped out by the repeal of the so-called war taxes. What remains will give little opportunity for the reduction of the tariff. The taxes removed are neither burdensome nor difficult to collect. They have the rare merit of all going into the Treasury. They are paid once for all, and they give no chance for oppressing the consumers. Certainly there should be a reduction of our needlessly high revenue. But with the exception of the tax on tea—as to which there is room for difference of opinion—the taxes now to be taken off are not the ones we should remit. The reduction should be in the tariff taxes, which impede the advance of American industry, check the extension of foreign trade, and unjustly injure the American consumer. It is especially outrageous that the party in power should take this means of perpetuating the wrongful tariff taxes at the moment when the highest considerations of duty and of enlightened expediency demand that trade with Cuba be made possible, in order that the people of the Island may attain freedom with security and prosperity.

The motto of the Republicans in the House is clearly: "Millions for the Trusts; not one cent for honor."

LAKE ERIE'S LEVEL FALLING.

Major T. W. Symons Reports on Observations of Four Years.

Buffalo.—According to a table arranged by Major Thomas W. Symons, United States Engineer Corps, the level of Lake Erie at Buffalo has been falling for the last four years. The fall was gradual until 1900, when it became greater than in preceding years.

Major Symons has taken observations at the south pier of the United States lighthouse slip. He has found that the lowest water in the period of navigation is in the Spring and the Fall, when the harbor is busiest. The highest water mark in four years was reached November 21, 1900, when the automatic gauge showed plus 6.4 feet. The lowest water was on December 4, 1896, and on March 14, 1901, when minus 4.4 feet was reached. That is reckoning with the mean level of Lake Erie, 572.86 feet above mean tide at New York.

A Woman's $75,000 Fee.

Des Moines Register.

A representative modern-day woman, Mrs. Fanny Carpenter, of New York City, has just received a fee of $75,000 for conducting a most important case in court, and we are once more reminded that the invasion of the business world by the fair sex is no joke. Mrs. Carpenter—who is described as a middle-aged, sensible, hard-headed, shrewd business woman—is a native of New England and was brought up in the tenets of a strict New England religion, moving West to live in California with her parents when 16 years old. She then took a course at Mills College, in Alameda, Cal., and there laid the foundation for her life's work. After her college course was completed the family moved to Hawaii, and it was there that this energetic young American woman met Mr. Carpenter and became his wife. Shortly after their marriage the pair returned to America and went to New York to live, and there they have practiced law, Mrs. Carpenter being a member of the firm since 1897. She enjoys the work of her profession, and takes great interest in all of the details of the firm's business.

There are just 18 women in New York who have been admitted to the bar, and these women belong to a club of which Mrs. Carpenter is the president, an honor which she considers the greatest she has ever won. Mrs. Carpenter is a firm believer in woman's clubs, and has been an enthusiastic member and supporter of a half dozen of them since she first arrived in New York 12 years ago. When asked to what she attributes her great success, she said that it was due to nothing so much as plain, hard work. "It is the only method by which one can achieve real success in anything." Mrs. Carpenter's practice has all come to her voluntarily, and she says she never yet sought a case. Where but in America can a woman earn a $75,000 fee in a business transaction?

A Kentucky Welcome.

Louisville Courier Journal.

And Schley! Why, here he is! What is the matter with you? What are you making all this fuss about? It is a ground-swell, is it not? Ground-swell! It is an earthquake!

And what does it mean, what is its significance?

Simply this, that he was here; that he won the fight; and that the other man was not and did not. So much to begin with. Next, if a single Spanish ship had got away, Schley would have been court-martialed. Not one got away. Next, since others have the prize-money, Schley is entitled to the glory. And, finally, and more than all, there has seemed a conspiracy somewhere to cheat him even of the glory. Public opinion just rears back on its hind legs and resents this. The sentiment of outrage is greatly aggravated by the circumstance that a male strumpet, carried on the payrolls of the Navy Department, supported by a great but degenerate Publishing House, and, apparently approved by persons in authority, was permitted to blackguard this noble officer and gentleman without a word of rebuke during the entire period of inquisition to which he was subjected.

The people en masse would rebuke these monstrosities of Administration. They will have none of them. They know Schley to be, as each of our great naval commanders, from Paul Jones to Farragut, has been, a gentleman and a hero; as far as our frail humanity may compass, incapable of intentional wrong; a sailor and a fighter, but, also, a humanitarian, who risked his life successfully, and without losing it, to save the lives of his fellows.

Open the doors wide. Ring out all the bells! It is Schley, of Maryland; Schley, of the Brooklyn; Schley, of Santiago!

Cheap Little Dubois.

Philadelphia Times.

Senator Dubois gave an interesting exhibition yesterday of the kind of statesmanship that sometimes gets into the higher branch of Congress. He rose to the highest pinnacle of littleness in a truly infinitesimal manner. General Wheaton was reported in the newspapers as saying something for publication, and other Army officers have commented upon the work of the United States Senate. Therefore, Mr. Dubois would like something done to scold these full-grown Americans for talking, to let them know that they are not supposed to have opinions and that all their thinking will be done for them by statesmen like the eminent Mr. Dubois.

AMUSEMENTS.

Of the Willson Juvenile Minstrels, which appear at the Marquam Grand the rest of the week, with Saturday matinee, the little tot billed as "Baby Ethel" is the bright particular star. The baby soubrette lisps the words of a tender ballad or a rollicking coon song with expression that her elders might well imitate. The music sometimes halts for a second because baby lungs cannot hold enough air for sustained vocalistic efforts, the big words are slid over with a delightful disregard, because their pronunciation is too difficult for a baby tongue, but these are charms rather than otherwise. She is far and away the "littlest one" to make good in the dramatic line, and she is immensely clever. Baby Ethel is not the only talented one in the company; in fact, the entire aggregation is amusing and entertaining, and there is a specialty team, Normal Margeson and Linnie Lone, who present a sketch that is laughable and songs that are encored. Norman is some inches shorter, and probably a few years younger, than his feminine partner, who is perhaps 8, but he makes up for deficiency in stature and age in his earnest, successful efforts to amuse. Coming after the Pollard "kiddies" had shown what little tots could do, the Willson Juveniles invite comparison with an organization noted the world over, but these Seattle youngsters have no reason to fear the comparison.

The black-face first part was suggestive of Dockstader and West, and others of the old-time minstrel men. There is not a tiresome number in the olio of specialties. The dancing of Howard Colludi and Katie Hazelgrove, particularly the "statue clog," was exceptionally good. The transformation scene and the "butterfly ballet," the finale of the programme, showed that the children had been carefully trained, and had learned their lessons well. George Pinkham, Dottie Martin and others of the company are interesting little folk, who displayed cleverness—but the fairy princess of all is "Baby Ethel."

COMING ATTRACTIONS.

Josef Hofmann's Recital at the Marquam This Afternoon.

Josef Hofmann, the great pianist, will give the farewell concert of his Portland engagement at the Marquam Grand Theater at 3 o'clock this afternoon. Seats have been in active demand ever since the sale opened last Wednesday, and indications point to another large and cultured audience this afternoon, such as graced the occasion of Hofmann's previous concert here. Musical Portland has been captured en masse by the calm and unassuming young man who performs such wonders on the piano. Hofmann's genius, his sympathy, his technique and his wonderful versatility excite the admiration of all who hear him play. At the close of his concert last Monday evening he was tendered an ovation of which any artist might be proud. In his playing Hofmann does not indulge in sentimentalism, and his style is all that can be desired in interpretation and execution.

"Whose Baby Are You?" at Cordray's

The laughable farce, "Whose Baby Are You?" which is the best work from the pen of Mark Swan, will be seen at Cordray's for the week beginning Sunday. The company is said to be fully up to the demands of the play, and the production has been well received all along the road. The advance sale augurs a big week's business.

Good Vaudeville Program Promised.

Manager Baker, who last night returned from Baker City, promises that the programme to be given at his theater next week, beginning Sunday afternoon, will be even ahead of that of the current week. Nine numbers will be given, each of which has been especially chosen from a long list of possibilities. Vaudeville in Portland has proven a success, and Mr. Baker will continue it indefinitely.

Modjeska-James.

The advance sale of seats for the Modjeska-James engagement the first half of next week opens at the box office of the Marquam this morning. From all indications the house will be crowded. The joint appearance of these two famous players is regarded as one of the most important events in the history of local theatricals, as from an artistic standpoint at least it promises a fine performance. "Henry VIII," the play in which they are to appear, has not been seen in America for many years, and so from a production standpoint it will not be easy to draw comparisons. The organization is a large one, numbering 37 people, and includes many Portland favorites, namely: Norman Hackett, Thomas Coffin-Cooke, Wadsworth Harris, Mrs. Evans Welles, Alice Clarke and Miss Aphie James. The repertoire will embrace but two plays, Monday and Tuesday, and special Wednesday matinee, "Henry VIII." On Wednesday, by special request, "The Merchant of Venice" will be given.

A Democratic View.

Chicago Chronicle.

We may accept the lowest possible estimate as to the number of people in the Island of Luzon who are fit to exercise the suffrage and we shall find that they constitute a larger body of voters than appeared at the first elections held in most of the new states in America. Five thousand white men was the number provided for in the ordinance of 1787 as necessary to the establishment of representative government. A mere handful of men who were believed to be in touch with civilization and devotedly attached to American principles of government sufficed in most of our Western states to adopt constitutions which have since been obeyed by contented millions and to establish laws which are even now in force. If a restricted suffrage is necessary in New York or Illinois it need not be considered insuperable in the Philappines. If we restrict the suffrage by age and sex, by taxes paid and by residence for stated periods, by registration in person and by obedience to the laws, why should not the suffrage in Luzon be restricted for a time by all of these conditions and by educational and perhaps property tests also? The one point to be considered is that the regulations shall be just and uniform. Once fixed and made known they can be complied with by all whose presence at the polls is now desirable.

Defense of Boss Croker.

Providence Journal.

Edward M. Shepard's apologia, in the Atlantic Monthly for February, contains a half-hearted defense of Croker. Mr. Shepard asserts that the power the boss has exercised for a generation, influencing men of all grades of wealth, intelligence and public spirit, proves that there are at least some errors or omission in a portraiture which represents him as "a heavy, brutal, dull, insolent, corrupt, tyrannical, reckless, unreasoning, absentee, political boss." This recalls Mark Twain's defense of His Satanic Majesty. The humorist said that we are accustomed to treat with too little deference the one who has been in all time the Father Confessor of two-thirds of the human race.

Let Me No More a Mendicant.

Arthur Colton, in the February Atlantic.

Let me no more a mendicant
Without the gate
Of this world's kingly palace wait.
Morning is spent;
The sentinels change and challenge in the tower,
Now slant the shadows eastward hour by hour.

Open the door, O Sentinel! Within
I see them sit,
The feasters, daring destiny with wit,
Casting to win
Or lose their utmost, and men hurry by
At offices of confluent energy.

Let me not here a mendicant
Without the gate
Linger from dayspring till the night is late,
And there are sent
All homeless stars to wander in the sky,
And beggared midnight winds alone go by.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The weather is suspiciously normal.

There is Noyes enough in the Senate now to offend the least exacting dignity.

If Prince Henry isn't coming to Portland, what's the use of his coming to America at all?

South Carolina looks the other way every time she thinks of her representation in the Senate.

People who are afraid they will sink whenever they go to sea ought to try a cruise on an airship.

Mrs. Payne Whitney will now learn how it is to cook a meal with one hand and write a poem with the other.

It is reported that the Prince of Wales was delighted with his reception in Germany. He must have gone over there to get away from the heat.

It is said that Mrs. Leslie M. Shaw is the best-dressed woman in Washington. Perhaps her husband had one of those $10,000,000 Iowa potato patches.

Chauncey Depew has now begun to look over the papers in the morning and cut out the clearance sale advertisements before he hands them to his wife.

The Minister of Public Instruction of Bulgaria has been assassinated. From all that we learn of that country, however, it appears that he never did anything worth living for.

Mrs. Patrick Campbell denies that she won that $22,000 at bridge-whist as firmly as her press agent asserted it. A woman with that kind of a press agent doesn't need to win any money.

Noting the introduction of the baked peanut in London, the Pall Mall Gazette observes: "We do not know whether that excellent feature of British civilization, the hot potato, flourishes on Winter nights at the street corners of New York. Probably it does; but if it does not, there should be an opening for some good Samaritan with an eye to business to show our cousins that they have not got a monopoly of good things. However, we welcome the peanut—more familiar to us as the monkey-nut—as a highly desirable immigrant, and have no doubt that he has come to stay."

Since the outbreak of the troubles in the Philippines there has been a great demand for maps showing the resources of the West, the routes to the Pacific Coast, and to the islands of the Orient. Last Summer one railroad company had 15,000 of these maps printed at a cost of $10,000. They cost 65 cents each, but were sold for 25 cents each, barely enough to pay the express charges. The managements of the public schools of Iowa, Missouri and Kansas learned of these maps, and to date have caused over 5000 to be distributed among the schools. They are used by the teachers in preference to the regularly supplied maps, because of the additional information they contain.

The cost of living to the teachers sent over by the Government to the Philippines came very near being prohibitive to existence until last Fall. An order was issued that no civilian could secure rations from the Government commissaries. The result was that prices on everything went up. The teachers got pretty good salaries, but it cost them more than they received to live. As a result they got together and petitioned Governor Taft to get permission from the War Department for them to draw supplies from the commissaries. After some delay this was granted. Government teachers may now draw rations at an increase of 20 per cent of the price at which they are furnished those in the military service.

Looks Funny at Gotham.

New York Journal of Commerce.

The most extraordinary strike in the annals of labor unionism in this country is one just reported from Chicago, where the Coal Teamsters' Union, with 400 members, has enjoined the delivery of coal at any places where coal is burned only in cold weather. It is explained that this is an act of a war on fuel gas. Some of the teamsetrs have refused to unload coal at their destination when they learned that fuel gas is being used by the persons who ordered the coal. Fuel gas is extensively used in the tall buildings, and it is predicted that people in the skyscrapers will suffer if peace is not restored. The teamsters', stationary firemen's and elevator conductors' associations will meet the Teamsters' Union, the Team Owners' Association and the coal operators today, and it is hoped that harmony will be evolved. What have the coal teamsters to do with the consumption of fuel gas? Are they making this fight for the benefit of the coal operators? Of course, in proportion as fuel gas is used, the employment of teamsters in hauling coal declines, but have the people of Chicago got to burn coal in order to make work for the teamsters? Really, Chicago has treated the country to something original.

Feet on a Rock.

New York Evening Post.

Theodore Roosevelt is not the man to flinch or quail. He has put his feet on the rock of a moral obligation, in this matter of our duty to Cuba, and the gates of beet sugar shall not prevail against him. If he has sworn to his own political hurt in this business, he will, nevertheless, change not. His power, both personal and official, must yet have tremendous influence in this struggle for righteous action. With the Senate on his side, he can, if necessary, make an irresistible appeal over the head of the House to the people who are the creators of the House. Let but the moral duty laid upon us to come to the relief of distressed Cubans be put vividly before the American people, and there can be no doubt of their decision. When an aroused public sentiment wields its lash, the ways and means committee will come obediently to heel; and haughty Congressmen will be as prompt as the terrible genie of the tale in crying out, when the magic ring is rubbed, "Here am I!"

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Spoiling the Whole Thing.—Mickey—Hully gee! If dat ain't a shame! Sixteen men and four ole ladies hez slipped down on dat spot in de last 20 minutes, and now dat lobster is puttin' ashes on it!—Puck.

These Awful Girls.—Bess—I'll tell you a secret if you'll promise not to repeat it. Nell—All right. What is it? Bess—I'm engaged to be married. Nell—Oh, there'll be no harm in telling that. No one would believe it.—Chicago Daily News.

A Sure Thing.—Clubberly—Well, I see that Raker has run off with another man's wife. It will ruin his chances for the Senate if he keeps this thing up. Why, he won't be able to get into anything. Castleton—No; nothing but good society.—Life.

A Bad Break.—Doctor—I can tell by just looking at you that you need to take more exercise. You lead a sedentary life. What is your occupation? Patient—For 10 hours a day I give a window exhibition of one of those home-exercising machines.—Judge.

What's in a Name.—Tess—I've written Mama Woodby an invitation to my tea. I suppose I must. Jess—Yes, but you've spelled her name "M-a-m-e." Tess—That's so. She spells it "M-a-y-m-e," does